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**PLANT PATENT APPLICATION IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Hosta Plant Named 'Orange Marmalade'

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Hosta plant, botanically known as *Hosta*, cultivar name, 'Orange Marmalade'.

The new cultivar was discovered by the inventor as a mutation of the non-patented Hosta cultivar, 'Paul's Glory', in April 2000, in a nursery in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States of America.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by tissue culture in 2001 at Rochelle, Illinois, United States of America has shown that the unique features of this new Hosta plant are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar 'Orange Marmalade' have not been observed under all possible environmental and cultural conditions. The phenotype may vary with changes in environmental conditions such as temperature, light intensity, daylength, amount and frequency of irrigation and/or fertilizer rate, without any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be unique characteristics of 'Orange Marmalade'. These characteristics in combination distinguish the hosta as a new and unique cultivar.

1. Medium sized, puckered broadly ovate variegated leaves of moderate substance comprising a compact medium sized clump.
2. Leaves emerge yellow centered with a irregular blue green margin, leaves having additional streaks of yellow or greenish yellow between the margin and leaf center, center of leaves becoming light yellow or near white, depending on the amount of direct sunlight, later in the season.
3. Light lavender flowers are positioned on straight scapes in midsummer.

The new hosta can be compared to its parent cultivar, 'Paul's Glory', not patented. Plants of the new hosta emerge brightly variegated compared to plants of the parent that emerge almost a solid blue color. The color of the center of the leaf of the new plant is lighter in color throughout the growing season and is more varied with streaks of yellow (9C to 9B) and green (144A) than are found in the leaf center of the parent plant (154D). The new hosta also makes a smaller, more compact clump with shorter flower scapes when compared to 'Paul's Glory'.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new Hosta, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in color reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color value cited in the detailed botanical description, which more accurately described the actual colors in the new Hosta.

Figure 1 shows the plant at mid-season with brightly variegated color.

Figure 2 shows a comparison of an early color leaf on the bottom and a mid-season color of the leaf on the top.

Figure 3 shows a close-up photograph of the late season color of the leaf.

Figure 4 shows the late season flowering plant.

Figure 5 shows a late season flowering Hosta plant (Paul's Glory) taken at the same time and location as the novel *cultivar* shown in Figure 4.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the following description, color references are made to the Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The following observations and measurements describe four-year old plants, as depicted in the accompanying color photographs, which were grown in Boonton, New Jersey, United States of America.

Botanical classification: *Hosta* cultivar 'Orange Marmalade'.

Parentage: Mutation of *Hosta* cultivar 'Paul's Glory'.

Propagation:

Method.-By division and tissue culture.

Plant Description:

Plant shape.-Compact, open mound, dome-shaped.

Growth Habit.-Initially upright when young, leaves becoming outwardly arching

Culture.-Light to medium shade in moist shade.

Plant type.-Herbaceous perennial.

Plant Height.-About 17 inches from the soil level to the top of the leaf plane.

Plant diameter.-About 32 inches.

Vigor and growth rate.-Moderate.

Disease resistance.-No known particular resistance or susceptibility to disease known to hostas observed.

Foliage description.-Leaves basal, simple and generally symmetrical. Leaf shape:

Broadly ovate to ovate. Apex: Acute. Base: Rounded to cordate. Leaf

margin: Entire. Leaf texture: Glabrous above and below, moderate to heavy substance, and moderate puckering of mature leaves. Leaf size:

Length: About 9 inches. Width: About 6 inches. Venation pattern:

Campylodrome with 10 pairs of veins. Leaf color: Early season foliage:

Centers: Orange yellow 12B. Margins: Blue-green 137A, margins being $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide. Streaks of yellow 9C to 9B and green 144A may extend from the margin into the center. Mid-season foliage: Centers:

Yellow 9D. Margins: Blue-green 135A, margins being $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide. Streaks of yellow 9C to 9B and green 144A may extend from the margin to the center. Late season foliage: Centers: Near white

11C. Margins: Blue-green 136A, margins being $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch wide. A third color, yellow 153B, is present between the margin and center.

Petiole description.-Length: About 35 centimeters. Diameter: About 1.3 centimeters. The petiole of a young leaf has a central region having yellow color, 144D and a margin about 1 millimeter wide, blue-green, 135A in color. The petiole of a mature leaf has a central region having a yellow color 145B, and a margin, about 1 millimeter wide, blue-green 136A to 137A, in color.

Flower description:

Bloom period.-Mid-July to mid-August in Boonton, New Jersey

Fragrance.-No observed fragrance.

Flower arrangement.-Raceme of numerous single flowers comprised of six tepals. The number of flowers per raceme is about 30 with each flower lasting approximately one day.

Flower shape.-Funnel-shaped.

Flower size.-Length: About 5.5 centimeters. Diameter of corolla: About 4 centimeters.

Flower color.-Light lavender, about 76D with the midrib of the tepals lavender, about 72D.

Perianth.-Arrangement: Three interior and three exterior tepals; fused. Tepal length: About 3.2 centimeters. Tepal width: About 1.2 centimeters. Tepal color: Light lavender 76D with tepal midrib lavender, 72D.

Floral Bracts.-Arrangement: At pedicel base. Length: About 3.5 centimeters. Width: About 1.2 centimeters. Shape: Lanceolate, keel-shaped. Color: Yellow 11C with a blue-green margin, 137A.

Pedicel.-Length: About 4 millimeters. Angle: Horizontal to about 40 degrees from vertical; bent with the weight of flower. Color: 145A.

Scape.-Length: About 26 inches. Aspect: Upright. Texture: Smooth, glaucous. Color: Blue-green 142B.

Reproductive Organs.-Stamens: Quantity: Six; dorsifixed. Filament length: About 5.8 centimeters. Filament color: Near white 157D. Anther size: About 3 millimeters by 1 millimeter. Anther color: Purple 93A. Pollen Amount: Moderate. Pollen color: Yellow 17B. Pistils: Quantity: One. Pistil length: About 5.5 centimeters. Style Length: About 5.3 centimeters. Style color: 157D. Stigma color 157D. Ovary Length: About 7 millimeters. Ovary Color: 144B.

Seed Development:

Seed Pod.-Arrangement: Three carpelated capsule, approximately 8 to 10 seeds per carpel. Length: About 3 centimeters. Diameter: About 1 centimeter. Color: Blue-green, 146C.

Seeds.-Arrangement: Single-winged. Length: About 1 centimeter. Color. Black.

Root Development:

Root Description.-Fleshy, typically about 1/8 in diameter and 12 to 16 inches long.

Root Development.-Tissue culture liners potted in 1 quart pots in late spring and grown outdoors in commercial production shade structures under irrigation in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States of America, will fill the pot with roots in approximately 60 days.